

In re Patent Application of
COFLER ET AL.
Serial No. 10/082,816
Filed: FEBRUARY 25, 2002

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the careful and thorough examination of the present application, for correctly indicating that dependent Claims 26-35, 37, and 39-50 recite patentable subject matter, and for allowing independent Claims 51-54.

Applicants have amended independent Claim 25 to incorporate the patentable subject matter of dependent Claim 26, now canceled; independent Claim 36 to incorporate the patentable subject matter of dependent Claim 37, now canceled; and independent Claim 38 to incorporate the patentable subject matter of dependent Claim 39, now canceled. Applicants have amended Claims 27-30, 32-33, 40-43, 45, and 51-53 for consistency and to address informalities; none of these amendments narrow the scope of the claims for reasons related to the statutory requirements for patentability.

Applicants have also added new Claim 55, which recites the subject matter of former Claims 25 and 30, indicated as being allowable; and new Claim 56, which recites the subject matter of former Claims 38 and 50, indicated as being allowable.

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CONCLUSIONS

In view of the amendments to the claims presented above, it is submitted that all of the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing correspondence has been forwarded via facsimile number 571-273-8300 to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 this 4th day of September, 2007.

